



How Do Community Health Workers Contribute to Better **Nutrition**?

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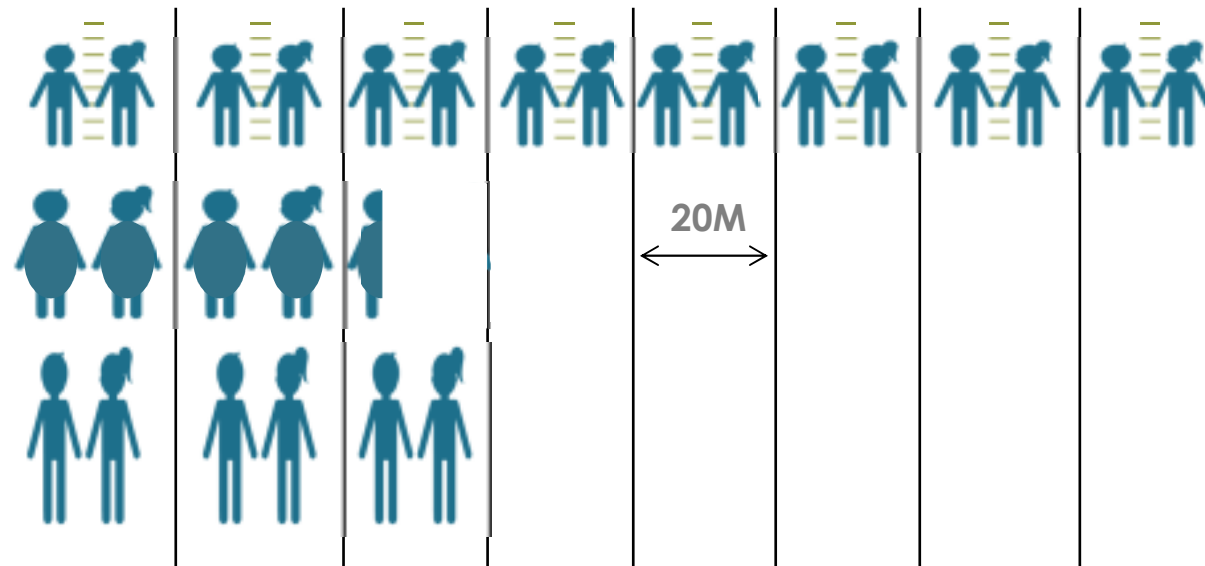
If you weren't sure why the **focus** on nutrition...

In 2014, there were 667 million children under 5 in the world. An estimated:

159 million
were stunted

41 million
were overweight

50 million
were wasted

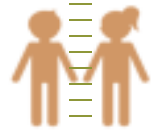


(each pair of children represents 20 million children)

— UNICEF, WHO, and World Bank Group 2015

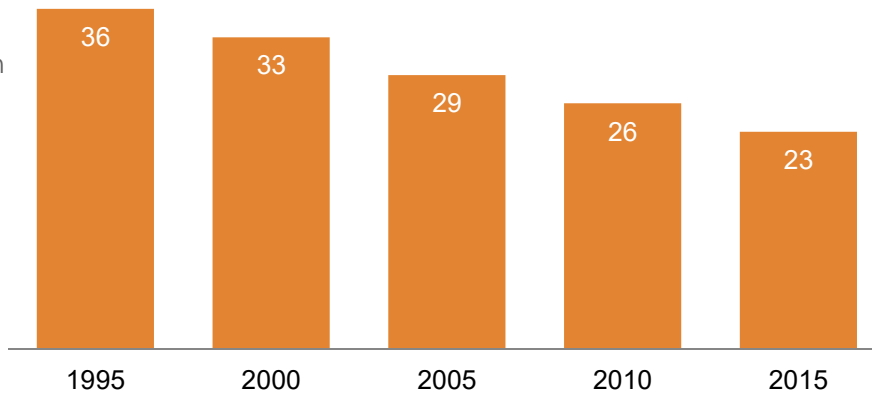
Nutrition-related factors contribute to about 45% of deaths in children under 5 years of age. — Black et al. 2013

Globally, nutrition-related health issues persist.



% children under 5

According to most recent data, **stunting** remains a major challenge.



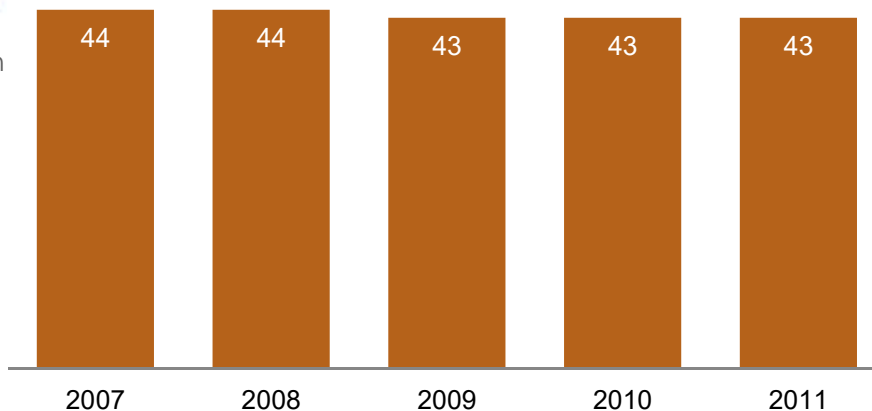
29%

of women of reproductive age have anemia (2011)



% children under 5

Anemia also persists as a major problem for children.

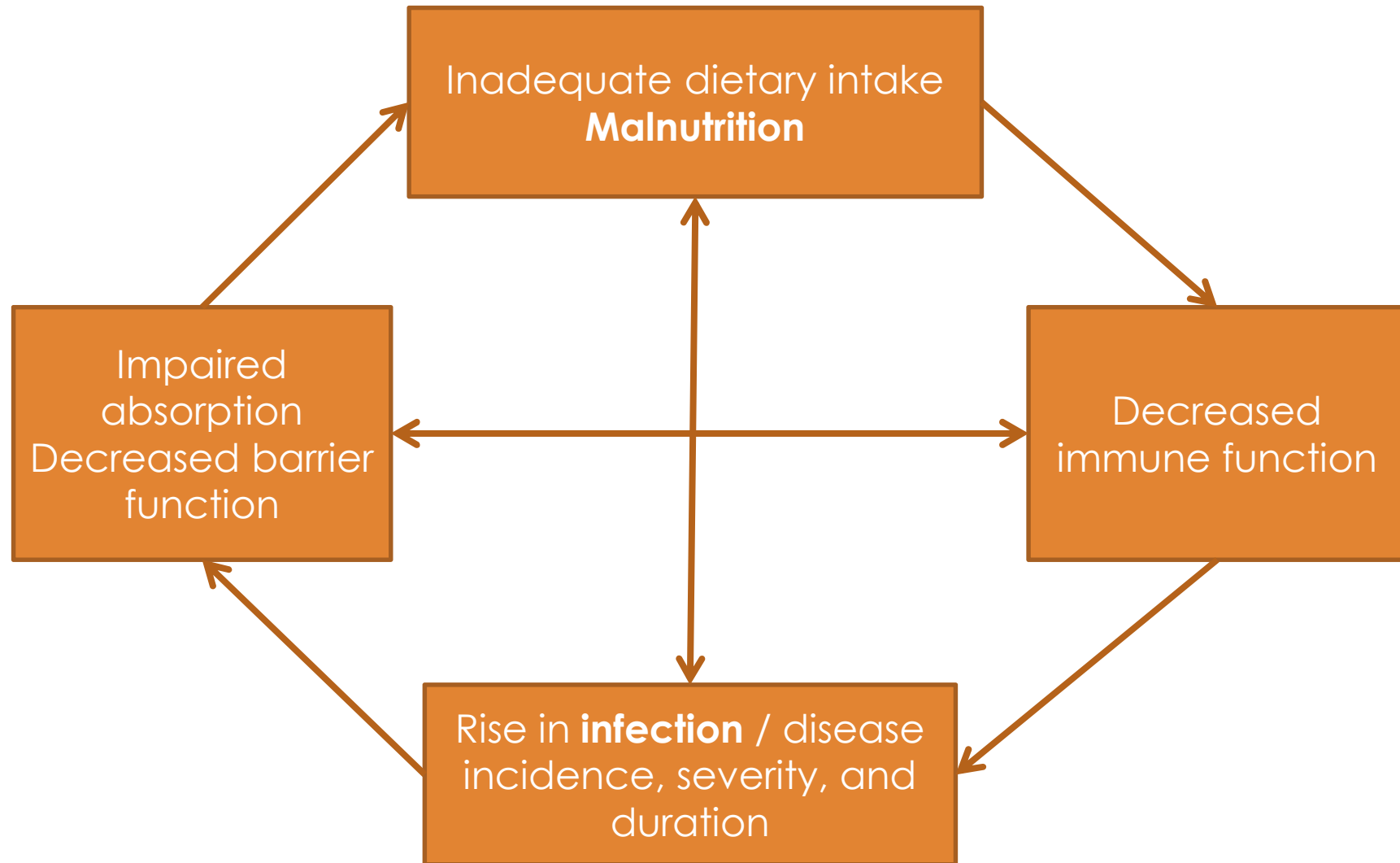


only 43%

of infants are exclusively breastfed for 6 months (2015)

Source: World Bank Databank: UNICEF

Health and nutrition are inextricably linked



We know **evidence-based, cost-effective interventions** can improve nutrition outcomes.

It is estimated that the following 10 evidence-based, nutrition-specific interventions, if scaled to 90 percent coverage, could **reduce stunting by 20 percent** and **severe wasting by 60 percent**.

- Management of severe acute malnutrition
- Preventive zinc supplementation
- Promotion of breastfeeding
- Appropriate complementary feeding
- Management of moderate acute malnutrition
- Peri-conceptual folic acid supplementation or fortification
- Maternal balanced energy protein supplementation
- Maternal multiple micronutrient supplementation
- Vitamin A supplementation
- Maternal calcium supplementation

We also know **nutrition-sensitive** interventions that can indirectly affect nutritional status.

But nutrition-sensitive interventions are less well defined and more context- specific than nutrition-specific interventions

- Agriculture and food security including availability, economic access, and use of food
- Social safety nets
- Child protection
- Access to and use of health services, a safe and hygienic environment
- Classroom education
- Health and family planning services
- Early child development, including feeding and caregiving resources (maternal, household, and community levels)

Health workers play a
critical role in providing
these proven, evidence-
based, cost-effective
interventions.



Session Overview

1. Nutrition Workforce Mapping Toolkit
2. CHW Advocacy Toolkit
3. Raising the Status and Quality of Nutrition Services within Government Systems
4. A Recipe for Nutrition

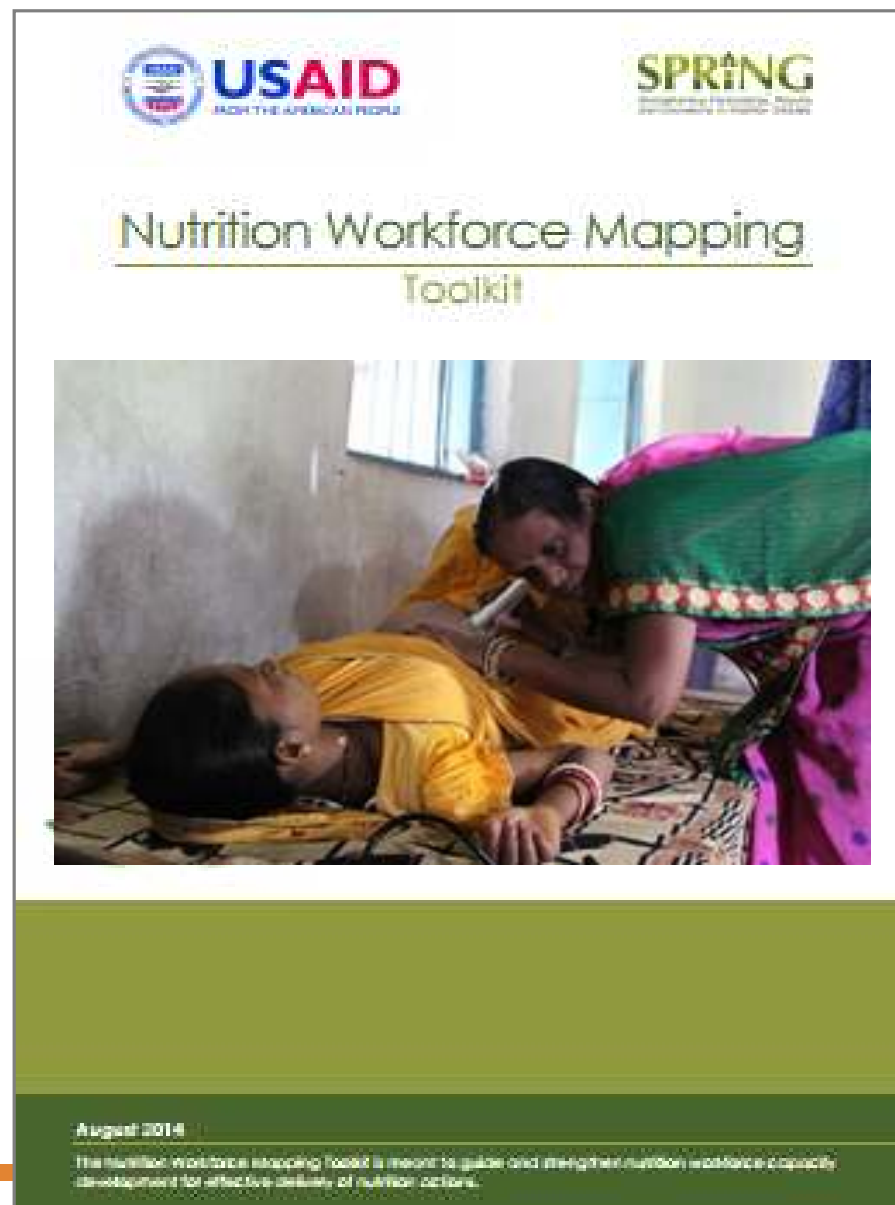


Which cadres of health workers and how many of each...

- Are mandated to provide nutrition services?
- Are trained to provide nutrition services?
- Are supported in providing nutrition services?
- Actually provide nutrition services?



1. Nutrition Workforce Mapping Toolkit

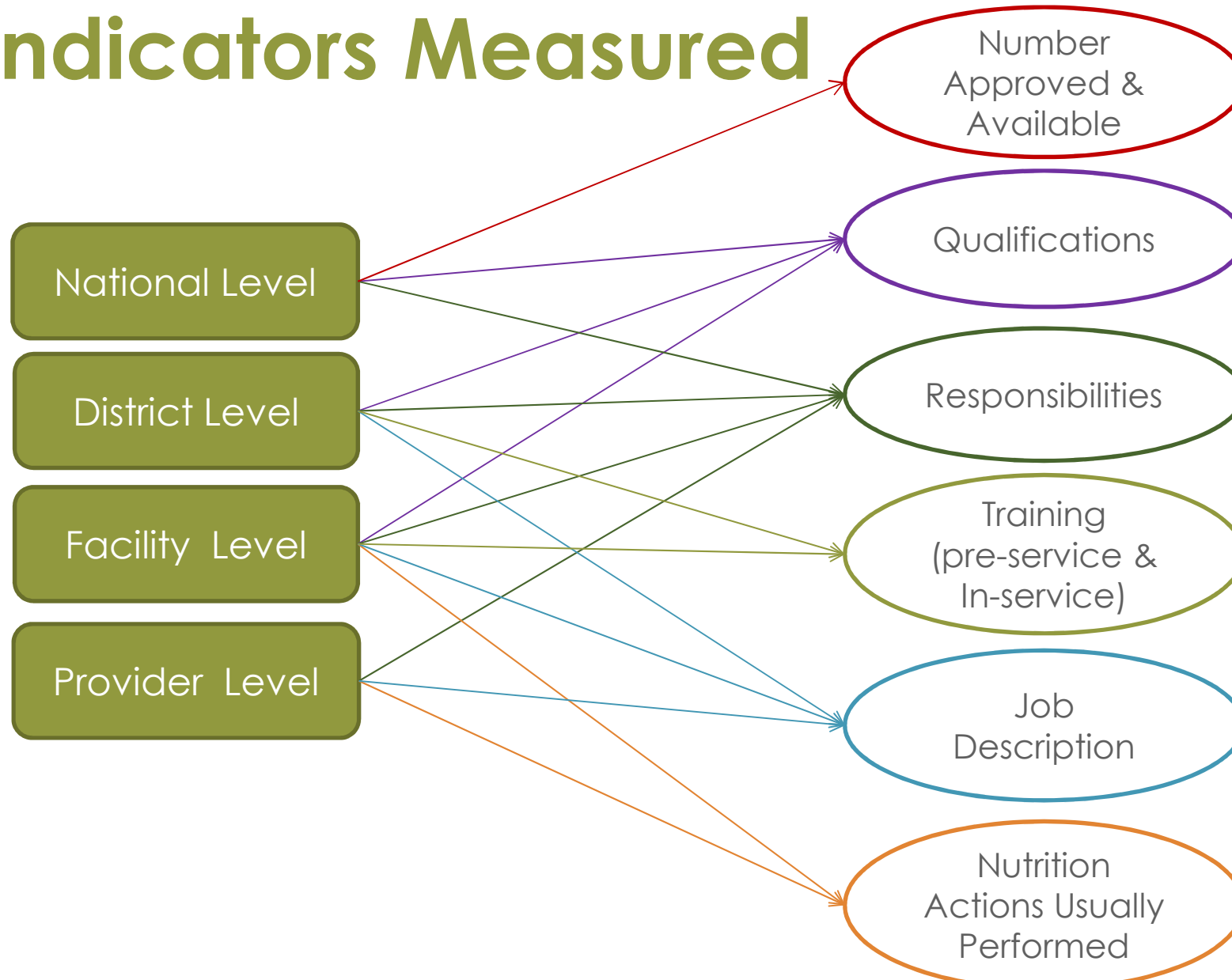


Nutrition Workforce Mapping **Process**



Nutrition Workforce Mapping

Indicators Measured



Nutrition Workforce Mapping

Tables and Charts

1. Responsibility, Performance, and Training for Nutrition Actions
 - by cadre
 - according to various key informants
 2. Total Number of Workers by Cadre
 3. Total Number of Trained Workers by Cadre
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2. CHW Advocacy Toolkit

- We collaborated with the Advancing Partners and Communities (APC) project's wider effort to update their Community Health Systems Catalog.
- With input from SPRING, they explored the role of CHWs in providing nutrition services.
- We developed this with information collected by APC.



How Do Community Health
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Zambia



Community health workers provide services in **multiple health service delivery areas**.

● Family planning

● Maternal and child health

● Integrated community case management

● STIs and HIV/AIDS

● Nutrition

● Malaria

● Tuberculosis

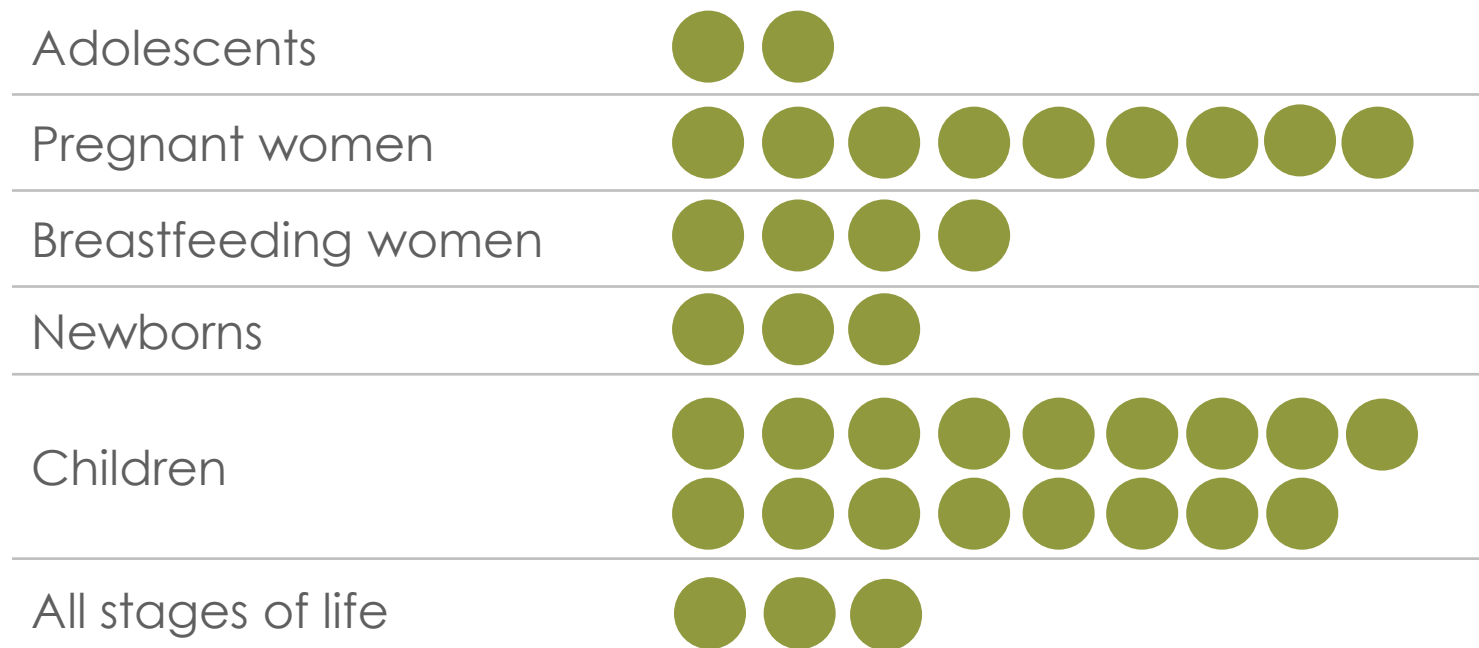
● Immunization

● Water and sanitation

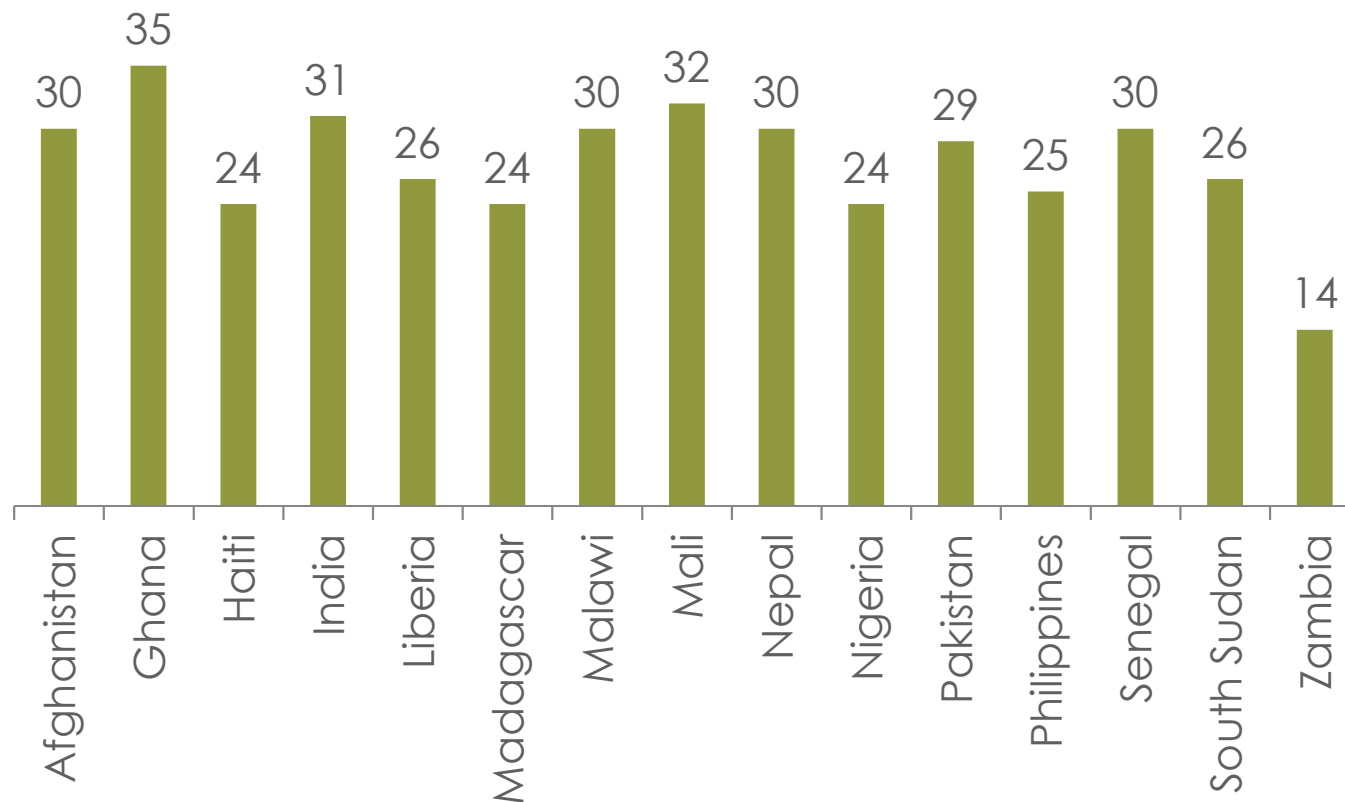
How is **nutrition** managed for CHWs?

- Is a **national CHW training curriculum** available?
- Is **nutrition included** in the training curriculum?
- Is nutrition in the job description of CHWs?

Community health workers can provide **up to 38** nutrition services.



Community health workers **can provide between 14 and 35** of those nutrition services in countries studied, according to policy.



✓ 14 out of 15 countries examined include nutrition in national **training curriculum for CHWs.**

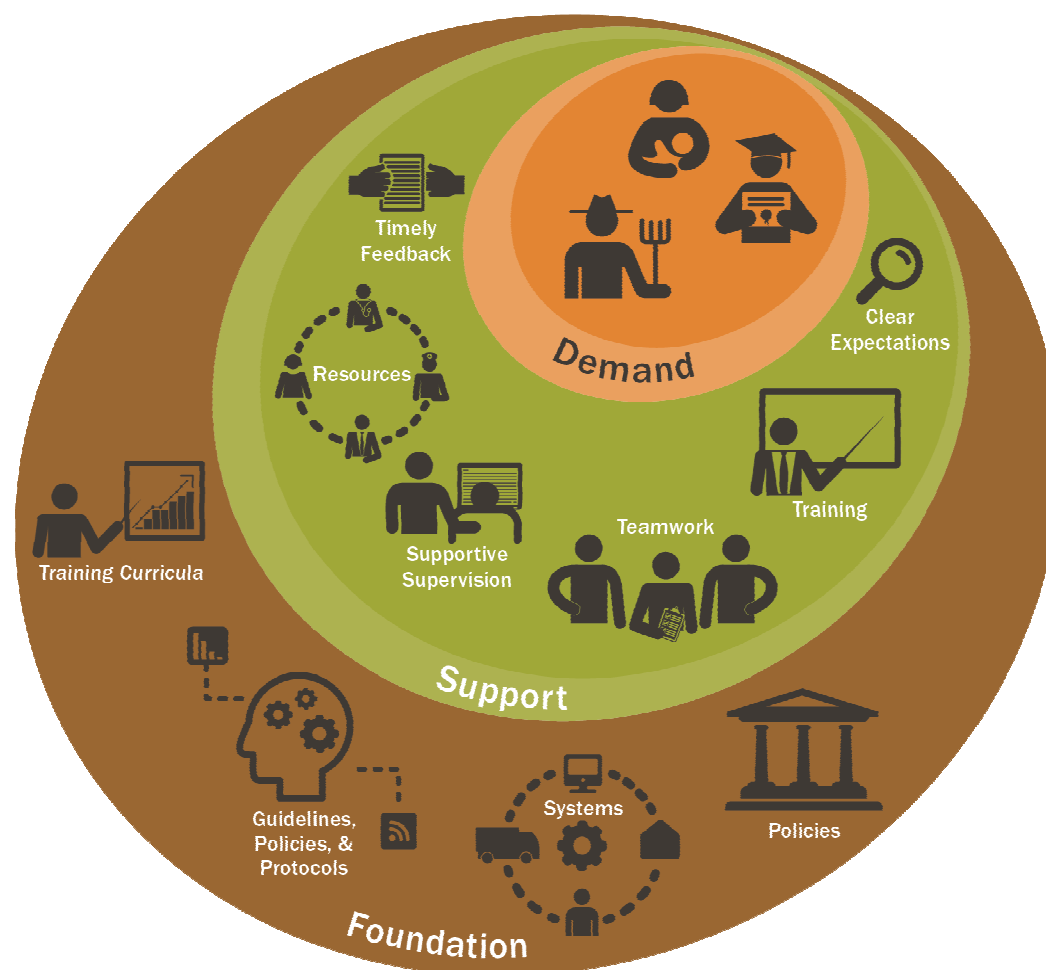
✓ 14 out of 24 **national nutrition policies** reviewed reference CHWs and their role in providing nutrition services.

But this doesn't tell us...

- What CHWs are **actually doing**
 - What CHWs need to provide quality nutrition services
 - What others are doing in the community that might **complement, reinforce, or undermine** what CHWs are doing for nutrition
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3. Raising the Status and Quality of **Nutrition Services**

Bringing about meaningful change in the delivery of nutrition services will require a **systematic and sustainable change process.**



That addresses the factors known to affect **performance**

FACTORS AFFECTING WORKER PERFORMANCE



Clear
Expectations



Knowledge
& Skills



Timely
Feedback



Incentives
& Motivation



Adequate
Environment

4. A **Recipe** for Nutrition

Helps clarify which frontline workers help families with which of these “ingredients”.

CHWs have help!



Learn more at:
www.spring-nutrition.org



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